

# Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor  
Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner  
Steve Jensen, Editor



Connecticut Department of Agriculture  
September 20, 2016

## PROJECT LAUNCHED TO SPUR NEW GENERATION OF AQUACULTURE AROUND THIMBLE ISLANDS

The Department of Agriculture is launching a new program designed to foster the development of small-scale shellfishing and other aquaculture operations on historically rich beds around the Thimble Islands in Long Island Sound off Branford.

The Department has acquired the shellfishing rights to about 900 acres of the beds, and in the coming months will issue licenses for the planting and harvesting of oysters, hardshell clams and kelp.

Connecticut shellfish aquaculture currently generates an estimated \$30 million in annual sales, and provides more than 300 jobs statewide.

Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky said the intent of the "incubator" program is to encourage new commercial aquaculture enterprises around the cluster of small islands, as well as increase public awareness and support for local and sustainable aquaculture.

"The acquisition of these historical commercial shellfish grounds by the Department of Agriculture presents a unique opportunity to grow the shellfish industry in Connecticut," Reviczky said. "Our agency looks forward to working with entrepreneurs interested in exploring a career in aquaculture."

The existing industry consists mainly of larger operations that cultivate oysters and hard clams on the bottom of leased beds in Long Island Sound.

That model requires significant capital expense for deep-water boats, equipment and lease fees for beds owned by the state and administered by the Dept. of Agriculture.

Boats and equipment for bottom cultivation of shellfish must be equipped to work in 20 to 40 feet of water and may cost from \$150,000 to \$300,000.

Leases are awarded through a competitive bidding process, with the highest sealed bid prevailing, also creating a disadvantage for undercapitalized new and smaller operations.

The new program, called the Connecticut Sustainable Aquaculture Initiative, is designed to



**David Carey (R), Director of the Bureau of Aquaculture at the Dept. of Agriculture, discusses a new project to encourage shellfishing by smaller operations around the Thimble Islands with (R to L) state Sen. Ted Kennedy, Jr., along with George Krivda and Kristin DeRosia-Banick of the Dept. of Agriculture.**

increase the production of shellfish through smaller-scale hatchery and cage-culture techniques in near-shore, protected waters, which now comprise only a small fraction of the industry.

The shellfishing rights were obtained by the Dept. of Agriculture in 2014 from Ed Lang, a retired part-time shellfisherman who had purchased them in the 1980s.

Participants will be given the opportunity to start a small-scale project, obtain assistance in securing the necessary permits, and collaborate with the existing network of small harvesters in Branford.

They also will have access to staff at the Department's Bureau of Aquaculture, as well as other experts outside the agency.

"I'm really thrilled to see this initiative between the state and the fishermen here. To me this is the start of the future," said Jonathan Waters, a Branford fisherman. "I care deeply about this area, the history and the future of oysters and The Thimbles. It's a very moving thing for me to have this happen here."

Waters attended an event in Branford announcing the new program earlier this month held by Reviczky and state Senator Ted Kennedy, Jr., who represents Branford and several other nearby shoreline towns.

"Long Island Sound was once home to one of the world's largest and most economically important oyster fisheries in the world," Kennedy said. "I believe that this program, combined with the natural

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**LANCASTER, PA., LIVESTOCK SUMMARY**

Avg. Dressing

	LOW	HIGH
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	67.00	71.50
boners 80-85% lean	64.00	69.00
lean 88-90% lean	60.00	65.00
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	108.50	111.00
Choice 2-3	103.00	108.00
Sel 1-2	100.00	104.00
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEIN STEERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	n/a	n/a
Ch 2-3 few	92.00	95.00
Sel 1-2 few	86.00	93.00
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 1 94-128 lbs	100.00	110.00
No 1 80-92 lbs	65.00	70.00
No 1 80-92 lbs	65.00	100.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
80-90 lbs	217.00	225.00
110-130 lbs	210.00	215.00
130-150 lbs	190.00	225.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
80-120 lbs	100.00	110.00
120-160 lbs	80.00	110.00
160-200 lbs	70.00	80.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
100-150 lbs	240.00	275.00
150-250 lbs	315.00	385.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
80-130 lbs	175.00	185.00
130-180 lbs	210.00	235.00

**DAIRY REPLACEMENT COWS**

Sold by the head.

FRESH COWS:		
SUPREME	1675.00	1700.00
APPROVED	1200.00	1625.00
MEDIUM	950.00	1225.00
SPRINGING COWS (7-9 MONTHS):		
APPROVED	1175.00	1400.00
MEDIUM	875.00	1050.00
BRED HEIFERS (4-6 MONTHS):		
APPROVED	1450.00	1550.00
MEDIUM	1275.00	1450.00
SHORT BRED HEIFERS (1-3 MONTHS)		
SUPREME	1350.00	1400.00
APPROVED	1000.00	1325.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION**

Per cwt.

52-56	200-300 lbs	53.00	59.00
	300-350 lbs	42.00	48.50
48-52	200-300 lbs	45.00	54.00
Sows, US	1-3 300-500 lbs	32.00	35.00
	500-700 lbs	34.00	40.00
Boars	200-300 lbs	34.00	34.00
	500-600 lbs	8.00	9.00

**CONN. WHOLESALE FALL ITEMS**

Per unit, in dollars. Volume pricing.

ASTERS, 9"	3.20	3.20
CABBAGE, ORN, 9"	3.20	3.20
CORNSTALKS, PER BN	3.20	3.20
KALE, ORN, 9"	3.20	3.20
MUMS, 6"	2.10	2.10
MUMS, 9"	3.00	3.20
MUMS, 12" hanger or pot	9.75	9.75
MUMS, 15" hanger or pot	17.75	17.75

**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES**

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 5 LBS	14.00	14.00
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 12-4OZ	16.00	16.50
APPLES, GALA, LOOSE	28.00	30.00
APPLES, GALA, XFCY, 80	28.00	30.00
APPLES, GNGERGLD, LOOSE	26.00	26.00
APPLES, HNEYCRISP, LOOSE	50.00	52.00
APPLES, MCINTOSH, LOOSE	26.00	26.00
APPLES, MCINTOSH, XFCY, 80	30.00	30.00
BEANS, CRANBERRY, BU	48.00	48.00
BEANS, FLAT GREEN, BU	24.00	26.00
BEANS, GREEN, HND PK, BU	25.00	28.00
BEANS, GREEN, MACH PK, BU	26.00	28.00
BEANS, WAX, BU	28.00	28.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10 LBS	5.00	6.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
BROCCOLI, TRIMMED, 18 LBS	16.00	16.00
BROCCOLI, BUNCHED 14	13.00	14.00
BROCCOLI, CROWN, 20 LBS	10.00	14.00
CABBAGE, 50 LBS	12.00	12.00
CAULIFLOWER,FLTJKTPAK, 9	12.00	14.00
CAULIFLOWER,FLTJKTPAK, 12	12.00	14.00
CIDER, APPLE, 4-1 GALLON	21.00	21.00
CIDER, APPLE, 9-1/2 GALLON	24.00	24.00
COLLARDS, BUNCHED, 12	12.00	14.00
CORN, INDIAN, MINI, 12-3, 1/2 BU	28.00	30.00
CORN, INDIAN, 20-3, 1-1/9	38.00	40.00
CORN, STRAWB, MINI, 15-3, 1/2BU	28.00	30.00
CORN, SWT, BI-COLR, 60	10.00	16.00
CUKES, #1, 1-1/9	24.00	24.00
CUKES, #2, 1-1/9	14.00	14.00
CUKES, MED, WXED, 1-1/9	24.00	24.00
CUKES, PICKLERS, 1/2 BU	16.00	16.00
EGGPLANT, 1-1/9	9.00	14.00
EGGPLANT, CHINESE, 30 LBS	24.00	25.00
EGGPLANT, THAI, 20 LBS	15.00	15.00
GOURDS, ORN, SHELLAC, 1/2BU	22.00	30.00
GRAPES, CONCORD, 8-1 QT	24.00	26.00
KALE, BUNCHED, 12	12.00	16.00
PARSNIPS, 18-1 LB	21.00	22.00
PEPPER, BELL, ALL, 1-1/9	14.00	18.00
PEPPER, CHERRY HOT, 1/2 BU	16.00	20.00
PEPPER, CUBANL, Y/GMIX, 1-1/9	15.00	16.00
PEPPER, CUBANL, GRN, 1-1/9	15.00	16.00
PEPPERS, JALAPENO, 1/2 BU	15.00	18.00
POTATO, RNDWT, #1 CHEF, 50LB	14.00	14.00
POTATO, RUSST, #1, 10OZ, 50 LB	13.00	15.00
POTATO, RUSST, #1, 70-90, 50LB	13.00	14.00
POTATO, RUSST, #1, 100-120, 50#	12.00	12.00
POTATO, YEL, #1, CHEF, 50 LB	18.00	20.00
SQUASH, ACORN/BTTNT, 1-1/9	12.00	22.00
SQUASH, SPAGHETTI, 1-1/9	12.00	14.00
SQUASH, YEL/GRN, #1, 1/2 BU	14.00	20.00
SQUASH, YLLW, SM, MED, 1/2 BU	16.00	24.00
SQUASH, ZUCH, 1/2 BU	8.00	12.00
STRAW BALES, STD, EACH	7.00	8.00
STRAW BALES, MINI, EACH	5.00	5.00
TOMATOES, 20 LBS	20.00	28.00
TOMS, CHRY, 8-10 OZ	16.00	20.00
TOM, CHRY, GHSE, ONVINE, 5LB	10.00	16.00
TOM, CHRY, GHSE, 8-10 OZ	24.00	26.00
TOMS, GRAPE, 8-10 OZ	16.00	20.00
TOMS, GHSE, LOOSE, 25 LBS	15.00	15.00
TOMS, PLUM, ROMA, 25 LBS	12.00	16.00

**MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

Middlefield, CT - September 19, 2016

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	34.00	40.00
61-75 lbs.	45.00	47.50
76-90 lbs.	50.00	52.50
91-105 lbs.	55.00	57.50
106 lbs. & up	60.00	62.50
Farm Calves	67.50	70.00
Starter Calves	32.50	35.00
Veal Calves	105.00	130.00
Open Heifers	70.00	72.50
Beef Heifers	83.00	104.00
Feeder Steers	n/a	n/a
Beef Steers	80.00	117.00
Stock Bulls	105.00	115.00
Beef Bulls	75.00	89.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs each	42.50	47.00
Sheep each	n/a	n/a
Lambs each	60.00	140.00
Goats each	140.00	270.00
Kid Goats each	60.00	140.00
Canners	up to	62.00
Cutters	63.00	65.00
Utility Grade Cows	66.00	69.00
Rabbits each	4.00	17.00
Chickens each	3.00	17.00
Ducks each	3.00	10.00

**NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA**

Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	.58	.77
LARGE	.52	.66
MEDIUM	.33	.46

**NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS**

Per doz. Grade A brown in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.18	1.29
LARGE	1.08	1.19
MEDIUM	.54	.64
SMALL	.32	.42

**NEW ENGLAND WHOLESALE PUMPKINS**

\$ per unit.

BIG MACK, 24" BIN	285.00	285.00
BLUE, 24" BIN	285.00	285.00
CINDERELLA, 36" BIN, /LB	.27	.27
CNDERLA, ORNG, 24" BIN	285.00	285.00
CNDERLA, WHT, 24" BIN	285.00	285.00
FAIRYTALE, 24" BIN	285.00	285.00
FAIRYTALE, 1/2 BU	15.00	16.00
HOWDEN, 36" BIN, /LB	.21	.21
HOWDEN, 36" BIN	180.00	225.00
KNUCKLEHEAD, 24" BIN	285.00	285.00
MINI, ROUND, 1/2 BU	15.00	18.00
MINI, FLAT, 1/2 BU	15.00	18.00
PIE, 1-1/9	15.00	16.00
PIE, 36" BIN	250.00	300.00
SUGAR, 36" BIN, /LB	.24	.24

**FOR SALE**

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or [www.bludon.com](http://www.bludon.com)

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or [www.bludon.com](http://www.bludon.com)

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

85-R. 8 yearling Baldy steers. 8 open yearling Baldy heifers. 4 bred Baldy heifers due August. 860-485-5720.

89-R. Beautiful winter squash, Acorn, Butternut, Spaghetti by the box or bin. East Windsor, Connecticut. Call Karl 860-268-5931 or Glenn 860-930-4331 to arrange pick up.

90-R. For Sale: Mulch hay in 500 lb. round bales. Asking 19.00 per bale. Call Mike Sr. – 860-528-4660.

91-R. Rough sawn hemlock and pine lumber, great for fall time repairs and construction. Oak trailer decking and sideboards. Pine shiplap and Tongue & Groove perfect for barn siding. We welcome custom sawn orders. Custom furniture ranging from bar tops to outdoor furniture. Large inventory of live edge slabs. Hinman Lumber, Burlington, CT. 860-673-9170.

97-R. Truckload sale 1/2 bushel apple/peach baskets: \$2.00 each for 1000, \$3.00 each for 500. Doug 860-657-4172.

98-R. Round bales 4x4 haylage. Triple plastic wrapped. \$50.00. 150 bales. Griswold. Call 860-884-2889.

99-R. Lynn Blackmer, Nationwide Farm Master Certified Agent, Woodstock, CT. Farm, commercial, life insurance, and more. Cell: 860-377-8947 to see how Nationwide compares.

100-R. For Sale: Christmas greens, wreaths and roping. Many sizes and varieties. Excellent for fund raisers. 203-457-1344.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

6-R. Farm/Land specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tetreault Realty (860) 644-5667.

**CT FARM EMPLOYMENT CONNECTION**

92-R. Hills Farm- Dairy farm in Hebron CT seeking part time worker to milk and feed cows and clean barns and pens etc. Call Greg at 860-573-2664.

95-R. Wanted: Experienced vegetable grower- looking for a full time person to help oversee a new branch of our existing farm business. Experience in field crops and greenhouse is a must. Please contact Charles at 203-214-1408 or [crbeasley@albertus.edu](mailto:crbeasley@albertus.edu)

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potential of the region can enable Stony Creek and the Connecticut shoreline to reestablish itself as an important brand-name shell fishery.”

The initiative will begin by licensing the existing small-scale Branford operations that have expressed an interest in growing their businesses.

Those operations typically grow oysters in cages that sit on the bottom of the Sound, or grow clams under screens using hatchery seed, as opposed to traditional harvesting from the ocean floor. Others have expressed interest in growing kelp

on long, submerged lines.

The Department will assist those operations in the 8-to-12-month permitting process with the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and the Federal Army Corps of Engineers.

As part of the program, the Department enlisted the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service to survey the project area and create the first Connecticut shellfish soil maps, which are in the final stages of completion.

The project is also expected to create many economic and environmental benefits, including:

- Expansion and enhancement of public recreational shellfishing areas.
- Collaborative research projects between the Department of Agriculture, National Marine Fisheries, public and private universities, and Connecticut Sea Grant.
- The potential development of a shellfish marketing cooperative and creation of a name brand by the shellfishermen in the program.

**Those interested in being considered for the program may contact David Carey, Director of the Bureau of Aquaculture, at [David.Carey@ct.gov](mailto:David.Carey@ct.gov) or at 203-874-0696.**

**FARM VIABILITY GRANT APPLICATIONS  
DUE NOVEMBER 14**

Grant guidelines and applications for the Department of Agriculture's Farm Viability Grant program are available online and must be submitted by November 14.

The program provides grants to up to \$49,999. Applicants must provide a 40% match through cash or in-kind services.

The Farm Viability Grant provides matching funds to Connecticut municipalities, groups of municipalities, regional councils of governments, and/or agricultural non-profit organizations for projects that foster agricultural viability.

Funded projects have included town-owned farm improvements, efforts related to farmland preservation, the purchase of processing equipment to increasing the availability of Connecticut Grown products year-round in schools, and a host of other efforts that foster agriculture viability.

Grant guidelines and forms can be found at [www.CTGrown.gov/grants](http://www.CTGrown.gov/grants).

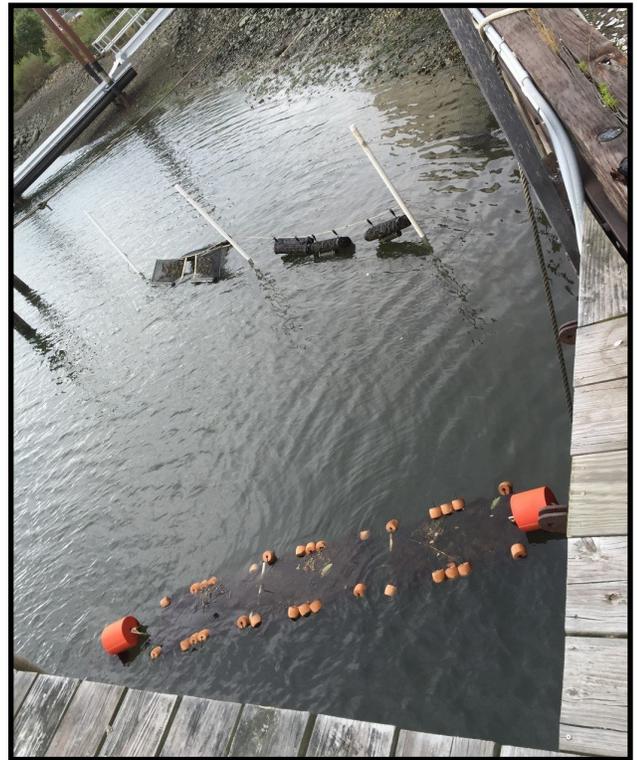
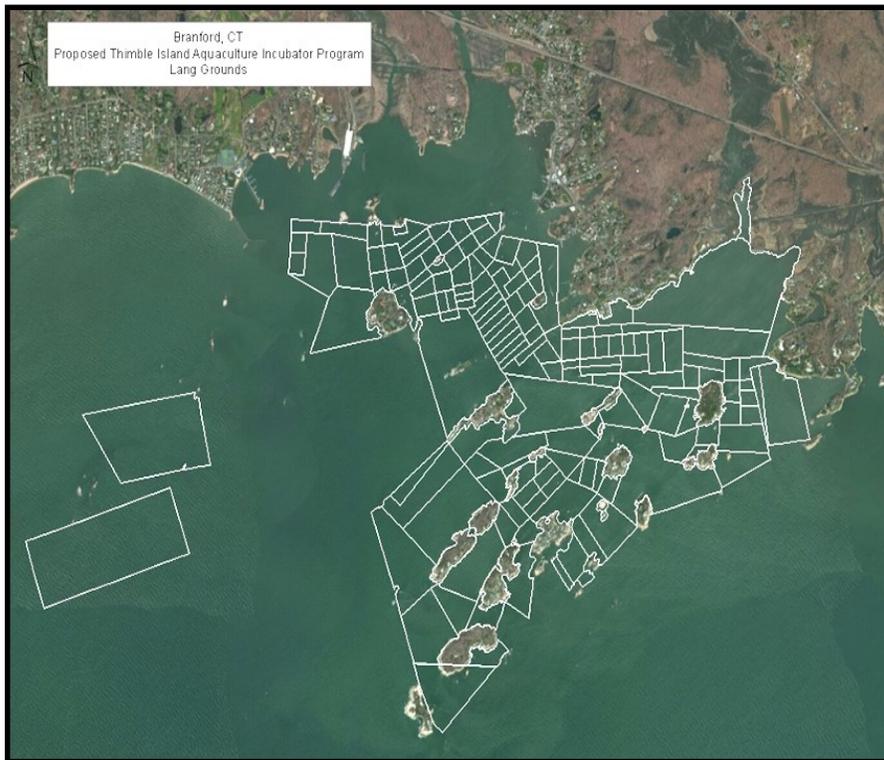
Workshops on how to write a project plan and apply for the grant will be held in three locations:

**West of the River:** Wednesday, October 5 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation at 32 City Hall Avenue in Torrington. Space is limited to 16 people.

**East of the River:** Tuesday, October 11 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Coventry Town Hall Annex (behind the Town Hall) 1712 Main Street in Coventry.

**Central Connecticut:** Friday, October 14 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Hartford Regional Market Conference Room, Building A, in Hartford.

Please RSVP 24 hours prior to the meeting to Jaime Smith, 860-713-2559 or [Jaime.Smith@ct.gov](mailto:Jaime.Smith@ct.gov). Directions and parking information will be emailed to all meeting attendees the day before the meeting.



**Top left:** A map showing shellfishing beds off the Thimble Islands in Brantford, where a Dept. of Agriculture project will encourage the development of small-scale operations.

**Above:** Submerged oyster cages and bags are typically used for planting and harvesting shellfish by smaller operations. These are part of an experiment at the Bureau of Aquaculture's office in Milford.



**Left:** Chef Roy Riedl of Mercado in Glastonbury prepares paella with ingredients from GourmAvian Farms, Green Valley Farm, Colgan Farm, CT Valley Farms, and New England Green Mushrooms. The demonstration Sunday at the Coventry Farmers' Market was part of a event kicking off the Dept. of Agriculture's seventh annual Farm-to-Chef Week, Sept. 18-24.

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